

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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APPROVED BY ARA: TATODMAN
ARA: SASHELTON
DOD/ISA: LMAY (DRAFT)
PM/ISO: PSCHLAMM (DRAFT)
ARA/CAR: JGRIFFITH (DRAFT)
L/PM: MMATHESON (DRAFT)
DOD/FMRA: JREINERTSON (DRAFT)
S/AR: AMB GALDRICH (DRAFT)

-----130200 262139Z /66

O R 262120Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 135116

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MARR, BB, US

SUBJECT: BARBADOS MILITARY FACILITY NEGOTIATIONS

REF: BRIDGETOWN 1197

1. DEPARTMENT HAS APPOINTED AMBASSADOR GEORGE ALDRICH
AS CHIEF NEGOTIATOR FOR THE BARBADOS MILITARY FACILITY
NEGOTIATIONS. AMBASSADOR ALDRICH IS DEPUTY SPECIAL
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRESIDENT AND DEPTUY CHIEF OF
DELEGATION FOR THE CONFERENCE ON THE LAW OF THE SEA.
HE HAS EXTENSIVE MILITARY BACKGROUND, AND IS CHIEF
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NEGOTIATOR FOR THE BAHAMAS MILITARY FACILITIES NEGOTIA-
TIONS NOW LIKELY TO RESUME JUNE 11-12 IN WASHINGTON AND
JULY 5-7 IN NASSAU.

2. WE BELIEVE THAT APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF NEGOTIATOR OF
AMBASSADOR ALDRICH'S STATURE FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH GOB
WILL INDICATE WE ATTACH NO LESS SIGNIFICANCE TO DIS-

CUSSIONS WITH BARBADIANS THAN WE DO TO THOSE WITH THE BAHAMIANS. IT SHOULD ALSO SERVE TO FORESTALL ANY PROTOCOL OR SENSITIVITY PROBLEMS ON GOB'S PART FOR SUBSEQUENT TALKS.

3. DEPARTMENT PROPOSES THAT AMBASSADOR ORTIZ DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER FORDE EITHER ORALLY OR IN WRITING IN EMBASSY'S DISCRETION.

DEAR MR. MINISTER:

AS A FOLLOW UP TO YOUR CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR ORTIZ LATE LAST MONTH, I AM PLEASED TO INFORM YOU THAT AN EXPERIENCED SENIOR DIPLOMAT, AMBASSADOR GEORGE ALDRICH, HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS CHIEF NEGOTIATOR AND HEAD OF THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE MILITARY FACILITY NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

AMBASSADOR ORTIZ IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS WITH YOU POSSIBLE DATES AND LOCATIONS FOR NEGOTIATING SESSIONS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO RESUMING MILITARY NEGOTIATIONS IN THE SPIRIT OF MUTUAL CONFIDENCE AND UNDERSTANDING THAT HAS TRADITIONALLY CHARACTERIZED OUR FRIENDLY RELATIONS.

WITH PERSONAL BEST REGARDS, I REMAIN,
SINCERELY, TERENCE A. TODMAN
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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

4. IN DISCUSSION WITH FORDE, EMBASSY SHOULD SUGGEST DATES OF JUNE 23 OR 26 IN WASHINGTON FOR AN INTITAL MEETING BETWEEN FORDE AND AMBASSADOR ALDRICH. THIS COULD TAKE THE FORM OF A PRIVATE LUNCHEON MEETING BETWEEN AMB. ALDRICH AND FORDE, WHO WOULD LIKELY BE IN WASHINGTON THE WEEK OF JUNE 19-23 FOR THE WORLD BANK CARIBBEAN GROUP MEETING.

5. SINCE FORDE MAY NOT WANT A FORMAL NEGOTIATING SESSION IN WASHINGTON WITHOUT FULL STAFF SUPPORT, A FORMAL SESSION FOR JULY 10-12 IN BRIDGETOWN MIGHT BE SUGGESTED. THE NEGOTIATING TEAM WOULD TRAVEL TO BARBADOS AFTER THE JULY 5-7 SESSION IN NASSAU. OTHER DATES IN JULY MIGHT BE POSSIBLE, BUT AMBASSADOR ALDRICH HAS OTHER PRIOR COMMITMENTS FROM AUGUST THROUGH EARLY SEPTEMBER.

6. IF SUGGESTED DATES ARE CONVENIENT TO GOB, MILITARY FACILITIES NEGOTIATIONS SCHEDULE WOULD BE AS FOLLOWS:

DATE	COUNTRY	PLACE
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JUNE 12-13 BAHAMAS WASHINGTON
JUNE 23 OR 26 BARBADOS WASHINGTON (INFORMAL?)
JUNE 27-28 TURKS & CAICOS WASHINGTON

JULY 5-7 BAHAMAS NASSAU
JULY 10-12 BARBADOS BRIDGETOWN VANCE

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